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Fifty-fourth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 106
Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Madagascar, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

A United Nations literacy decade: education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[2] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[3] the right of every individual to education is recognized as inalienable,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, 44/127 of 15 December 1989, 46/93 of 16 December 1991, 50/143 of 21 December 1995, in which it called for continuing international efforts to promote literacy, and 52/84 of 12 December 1997, by which it requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in consultation with Member States, to consider effective ways and means for achieving the goal of education for all, including the desirability and feasibility of launching a United Nations decade to eradicate illiteracy,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that nearly two thirds of the world's adult illiterates are women,

Convinced that literacy, especially functional literacy and quality education, represents a lifelong necessity for all and serves as an investment in human and social capital, a major tool for the empowerment of people,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] Resolution 44/25, annex.

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Recalling its resolution 53/153 of 9 December 1998, entitled "United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights",

Confident that the International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990, resulted in increased awareness and support for literacy efforts and became a turning point in the struggle for a literate world,

Underlining the importance of sustaining and further promoting the progress achieved since the International Literacy Year and the Jomtien Conference,

Welcoming the Amman Affirmation,[4] the final communique of the mid-decade meeting of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All, the report of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century[5] and the 1997 Hamburg Declaration on Adult Learning,

Recognizing that, despite the significant progress in basic education, especially the increase in primary school enrolment coupled with a growing emphasis on the quality of education, major problems, both emerging and continuing, still persist, which require even more forceful and concerted action at the national and international levels so as to achieve the goal of education for all,

Urging Member States, in close partnership with international organizations and non-governmental organizations, to promote the right to education for all and to create conditions for all for learning throughout life,

1. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, entitled "Progress towards the goal of education for all: the year 2000 Assessment";[6]

2. *Reaffirms* that basic education for all is essential for achieving the goals of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy;

3. *Acknowledges* the efforts and the preparatory work at national and regional levels for the year 2000 assessment of progress towards achieving the goals of education for all in identifying both continuing and emerging challenges, and stresses the need to meet those challenges and to accelerate the efforts to meet the basic needs of people of all age groups, particularly girls and women;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments to step up their efforts to eradicate illiteracy and to direct education towards the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Also appeals* to all Governments to redouble their efforts to achieve their own goals of education for all by setting firm targets and timetables, where possible, including gender-specific education targets and programmes to combat the illiteracy of women and girls, and, by working in active partnership with communities, associations, the media and development agencies, to reach those targets;

6. *Appeals anew* to Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support

[4] A/52/183, annex.

[5] *Learning: the Treasure Within: Report to UNESCO of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century* (Paris, UNESCO, 1996).

[6] A/54/128-E/1999/70.

to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve education for all goals, through, *inter alia*, the 20/20 initiative, as appropriate;

7. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to further intensify their efforts to effectively implement the World Declaration on Education for All,[7] the Amman Affirmation and the 1997 Hamburg Declaration on Adult Learning and the Agenda for the Future of Adult Learning, as well as the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy contained in the recent major United Nations-sponsored international conferences, and their plus-five-review special sessions, with a view to better coordinating their activities and increasing their contribution to development;

8. *Welcomes* the convening of the world education forum, to be held in April 2000 in Senegal, with a view to assessing the implementation of the Education for All Goals and adopting an agenda for education in the twenty-first century;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and Member States, other appropriate organizations and bodies, to submit, through the Economic and Social Council, a proposal for a United Nations literacy decade, with a plan of action for such a decade, on the basis of the outcome of the world education forum, to be held in April 2000, to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, with a view to proclaiming a United Nations literacy decade for the period 2001-2010;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and the relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the question of a United Nations Literacy Decade.

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[7] *Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5-9 March 1990*, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990, appendix 1.

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Bangladesh, Barbados, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Madagascar, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/90 of 16 December 1992, 49/155 of 23 December 1994 and 51/58 of 12 December 1996, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ascertain, in cooperation with the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, the desirability and feasibility of elaborating United Nations guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends[1] and the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, annexed to the report,

Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, are becoming a major factor of economic and social development by promoting the fullest possible participation in the development process of women and all population groups, including youth, older persons and people with disabilities, and are increasingly providing an effective and affordable mechanism for meeting people's needs for basic social services,

Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development,[2] the Fourth World

[1] A/54/57.

[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

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Conference on Women,[3] the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)[4] and the World Food Summit, and their plus-five-review special sessions,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends;[1]

2. *Adopts* the Guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives contained in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage wider dissemination and utilization of these Guidelines by Governments, national, regional and international cooperative organizations through, *inter alia*, the possible introduction of new or the revision of the existing laws and administrative provisions governing the activities of cooperatives, with a view to ensuring a supportive and enabling environment for cooperatives so that they can make an appropriate contribution to the attainment of the goals of social development, including overcoming poverty, securing productive employment and encouraging social integration;

4. *Urges* Governments, relevant international organizations and specialized agencies, in collaboration with national and international cooperative organizations, to give due consideration to the role and contribution of cooperatives in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the World Food Summit, and their plus-five review special sessions, by *inter alia*:

(a) Utilizing and developing fully the potential and contribution of cooperatives for the attainment of social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of full and productive employment and the enhancement of social integration;

(b) Encouraging and facilitating the development of cooperatives, including taking measures aimed at enabling people living in poverty or belonging to vulnerable groups to engage on a voluntary basis in the creation and development of cooperatives;

(c) Taking appropriate measures aimed at creating a supportive and enabling environment for the development of cooperatives through, *inter alia*, developing an effective partnership between Governments and the cooperative movement;

5. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, specialized agencies and national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90 of 16 December 1992;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations organizations and international organizations, to render support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to disseminate and utilize the guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, including through the organization of workshops and seminars at national, subregional and regional levels;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and relevant United Nations and international organizations, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

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[3] *Report of the World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6).

Annex

Guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives

Introduction

In its resolution 51/58 of 12 December 1996, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ascertain, in cooperation with the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, the desirability and feasibility of elaborating United Nations guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives and to include his findings and recommendations in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.

In response to that request, the Committee took up the matter at its fifty-sixth session, held at Geneva in November 1996. It decided in principle that such guidelines were highly desirable: the only existing guidance was provided by Cooperatives (Developing Countries) Recommendation No. 127, adopted on 21 June 1966 by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization. A meeting of experts on cooperatives was held at Geneva from 29 March to 2 April 1993 by the International Labour Organization. It concluded that, after nearly three decades of substantial change in global economic and social conditions in the cooperative movement and in the relations between it and Governments, there was need to change the tone and emphasis of the Recommendation to reassess the underlying concepts of aid to cooperatives and to include matters not addressed by it.

Moreover, in the view of the Committee, there was an urgent need for guidance to many Governments on policy regarding cooperatives and the cooperative movement in view of the importance of the movement, as agreed upon by them at the series of recent global conferences for new forms of collaboration and partnership with major stakeholders within society. New forms of relationships between Governments and the cooperative movement had been called for at a series of ministerial level meetings organized by the International Cooperative Alliance. The role and status of both Governments and the cooperative movement had changed drastically in formerly socialist countries and in many other developing countries. The international cooperative movement itself had comprehensively reviewed its values and principles and the nature of its proper relationship with other sections of society, including Governments, and had adopted a new "Statement on the Cooperative Identity" at the centennial congress of the International Cooperative Alliance in 1995.

In order to explore the feasibility of elaborating such guidelines, the Committee appointed a consultant to prepare a draft. A first version was reviewed and a second version examined at a consultative meeting attended by specialists from around the world, as well as by representatives of members of the Committee, at Geneva in May 1997. On the basis of extensive examination at that meeting, a third version of the draft guidelines was prepared.

The draft guidelines were circulated widely in print and electronic version. The electronic version of the guidelines was posted on the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives Web site in January 1998. A printed version was also included in the International Day of Cooperatives press pack, which was mailed in July 1998 to over 2,000 organizations. The Committee also requested input from a number of cooperative organizations on an individual basis and briefed and provided copies of the guidelines at the International Cooperative Alliance meeting of chairpersons of the specialized bodies in March of 1998. No major comments to the guidelines were received by the Secretariat with the exception of a critical review by the Industrial Common Ownership Movement,

which was circulated to members upon receipt. Other than this comment, there have been no negative reactions to the guidelines or any suggestions for improvements. Specific comments of approval were received from the International Cooperative Alliance Board, which reviewed and adopted the guidelines at their meeting in Tokyo in April 1998, and from the Federation of Danish Cooperatives. The representative of the International Labour Organization also reported that, despite the fact that the proposal for the revision of ILO Recommendation 127 was not accepted, the discussion of the item indicated that Governments in developing countries supported having a new standard on cooperatives, thus showing that there was a need for some sort of guidelines.

On the basis of the process of elaborating this draft, the Committee is able to advise the Secretary-General that it considers further elaboration of guidelines to be entirely feasible. During the process of wide circulation of the drafts of the guidelines by the Committee, the views expressed by specialists within the cooperative movement as well as in governmental and intergovernmental organizations is unanimously that such guidelines are desirable.

Objectives

1. Within the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and at major recent international conferences, Governments have acknowledged the significance of cooperatives as associations and enterprises through which citizens effectively overcome a wide range of problems and achieve many of their goals. They have recognized the cooperative movement as a distinct and major stakeholder in both national and international affairs.

2. Governments recognize that the cooperative movement is highly democratic, locally autonomous but internationally integrated, and a form of organization of associations and enterprises whereby citizens themselves rely on self-help and their own responsibility to meet goals that include not only economic but social and environmental objectives, such as overcoming poverty, securing productive employment and encouraging social integration.

3. Consequently, Governments seek to support the cooperative movement and to work closely with it to develop an effective partnership to achieve their respective goals. Policies setting out the objectives and means of support and collaboration are valuable instruments for ensuring that the potential of cooperatives for meeting the individual goals of citizens who are members, and through this the aspirations of the wider societies of which they are a part, is realized.

4. However, such policies can be effective only if they take into account the special character of cooperatives and the cooperative movement, which differs significantly from that of associations and enterprises not organized according to cooperative values and principles.

5. The objective of the present guidelines is to provide advice to Governments that is appropriate to contemporary and anticipated conditions. Because of the expectations shown by Governments in recent years regarding the cooperative movement and the rapidly changing global conditions and changes in the cooperative movement itself, many policies in most of the States Members of the United Nations might benefit from review, and in some cases from substantial revision. Given the relevance of cooperatives to many aspects of national life, as well as the special nature of cooperative organization, policy in respect to cooperatives may be complex and sensitive. It is the purpose of these guidelines to set out succinctly the principles on which national policy might best be based and the scope and

content likely to suffice as a framework for the necessarily more specific and detailed national policies which fall within the responsibility of each Government.

Policy regarding cooperatives and the cooperative movement

6. The objective of the policy is to ensure that cooperatives, recognized as legal entities, are assured real equality with other types of associations and enterprises, and that this equality is extended to all organizations and institutions set up by the cooperative movement. Enjoyment of such equality requires that the special values and principles of cooperative organization, expressed in the particular forms taken by cooperative organization, receive full recognition as being desirable and beneficial to society and that appropriate measures are taken to ensure that their special qualities and practices are not the cause of discrimination and disadvantage of any kind.

7. To achieve this objective, Governments are concerned with creating, and with maintaining as conditions change, a supportive and enabling environment for cooperative development. As part of such an environment, it is useful if every effort is made to create and maintain an effective partnership between Governments and the cooperative movement.

A. Public recognition

8. It is appropriate and useful for Governments to acknowledge publicly the special contribution, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, made by the cooperative movement to the national economy and society. It is also beneficial for Governments to acknowledge and publicize the purposes of all forms of partnership and collaboration between themselves and the cooperative movement. A number of specific actions may be useful, one of which might be full participation in the annual joint observance of the United Nations International Day of Cooperatives and the International Cooperative Day organized by the International Cooperative Alliance, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 47/90, 49/155 and 51/58; and appropriate participation in other celebrations of the cooperative movement.

B. Legal, judicial and administrative provisions

9. Appropriate provision is necessary within legal, judicial and administrative practice if these most important areas of the environment in which cooperatives exist are to contribute positively to the supportive and enabling nature of that environment. Legal provisions may take various forms appropriate to individual national legal systems. The status, rights and responsibilities of cooperatives and the cooperative movement in general, as well as, if appropriate, those of special categories of cooperatives or of distinct aspects of cooperation should be addressed.

10. National constitutions: These instruments could acknowledge, if appropriate, the legitimacy of cooperatives and the cooperative movement and the utility of their contribution to national life.

11. General law on cooperatives or the general section of a single law on cooperatives: A general law on cooperatives could form the basic element in legal provisions and the fundamental point of guidance for all judicial and administrative practice. Participation by representatives of the cooperative movement in its formulation would be a valuable means to ensure its relevance and utility. It should acknowledge the nature of cooperation and its utility, set out criteria for treatment of cooperatives in law and define the nature of governmental responsibilities as well as the rights and responsibilities of the cooperative movement. It should include the following basic set of acknowledgments, definitions and provisions, certain of which might be set out in a preambular section: acknowledgment that

the organization of associations and enterprises on the basis of cooperative values and principles is legitimate; acknowledgment of the utility of the cooperative approach to association and enterprise, its contribution to national life and the status of the cooperative movement as a significant stakeholder within society; definition of cooperatives, using the "Statement on the Cooperative Identity" adopted by the International Cooperative Alliance in 1995; recognition of the unique nature of the values and principles of cooperation, and hence the need for their separate and distinct treatment in law and practice; commitment that neither their unique nature nor their separate and distinct treatment in law and practice should be the cause of discrimination, intended or not; undertaking that no law or practice should restrict the rights of citizens to full participation in the cooperative movement in any capacity consistent with its values and principles and should not restrict the operation of that movement; provision that a general law apply to all categories of cooperatives but that, in order to respond to the situation of certain categories of cooperatives, special laws might be enacted, consistent with the general law; stipulation that all judicial and administrative regulations and practices be based only on the general or special laws on cooperatives; that all regulations clearly identify the provision of the law on which they are based and the purpose for which they are made; recognition of the full autonomy and capacity for self-regulation of the cooperative movement; acknowledgment that intervention by Governments in the internal affairs of the movement should be strictly limited to measures applied generally to all associations and enterprises equally in order to ensure their conformity with the law. Adjustments may be made only to ensure: real equality in treatment; definition of the responsibilities of the cooperative movement for self-regulation in all matters distinctive to it; provision that the texts of laws and regulations be made available to all cooperative members and employees; provision that representatives of the cooperative movement participate fully in drafting special laws or judicial or administrative regulations and guidelines concerning practice; provision for the maintenance of a public register of cooperatives as a part of procedures for registration of all associations and enterprises; provision for procedures for continuous monitoring and regular review of law and practice which would include the full and equal participation of representatives of the cooperative movement and for encouragement of research on the effect of law and practice on the environment for cooperatives; establishment of the responsibility of Governments to formulate and carry out a policy in respect to cooperatives that would seek to establish a supportive and enabling environment while avoiding any infringement of the autonomy of the movement and any diminution of its capacity for responsible self-regulation and would seek also to engage in an effective and equal partnership with the movement in all matters where it is able to contribute significantly to the formulation and carrying out of public policy; recognition of the value of governmental support for the international cooperative movement, including through intergovernmental activities; and definition of the responsibilities of the cooperative movement as a major stakeholder in society, to the extent these responsibilities are consistent with its full autonomy. These responsibilities include making available its experience in self-reliant, people-oriented and community-based organizations of associations and enterprises.

12. Special laws on certain categories of cooperatives: These must be consistent with the basic provisions set out in either a general law or in the preambular and initial sections of a single law where neither exists. Each special law should provide the same set of such basic provisions. They may be necessary when the distinctive nature of cooperatives requires special provision in law to safeguard their autonomy while achieving their equal although distinctive inclusion in generally applicable regulations. This is often the case in respect to financial cooperatives.

13. Judicial and administrative practice concerned explicitly with cooperatives: These must be consistent with the general law on cooperatives and, specifically, with its provisions concerning such practice.

14. All other laws and practices insofar as they may have an effect on cooperatives: Many laws and judicial and administrative practices may affect the environment in which cooperatives operate, whether intentionally or not. Relevant governmental bodies should make every effort to exclude any discriminatory or prejudicial impact. Responsibility for identifying cases needing revision lies with the cooperative movement. Government bodies should assist by making available the full text of drafts of proposed laws or regulations as well as any evaluation of their impact.

15. Monitoring, review and revision of laws and judicial and administrative practices: This is necessary to ensure that the impact of laws and judicial and administrative practices on the cooperative movement is entirely positive. If identified, discriminatory provisions should be rendered inoperative as quickly as possible pending enactment of revised laws or the issuance of revised regulations and guidelines concerning practice. This process should have as its purpose the early and complete disengagement by Governments from the internal affairs of cooperatives and the cooperative movement, where this still exists, and full operational realization of the principles that cooperatives, although different, are equal to other business enterprises and civil associations.

16. For these purposes, formal procedures for consultation and collaboration should be set up and should include regular and full participation by the cooperative movement. Advantage may be taken also of the special programmes and guidelines offered by specialized international cooperative organizations and intergovernmental organizations.

C. Research, statistics and information

17. Research: Given the significance of the cooperative movement, its own research and development programmes and the active role of Governments in supporting research generally, it is appropriate to undertake the following measures: recognition of the contribution of the cooperative movement itself, and hence disengagement from any direct intervention other than that applied to any recipient of public funding; provision for equal access as other types of associations, enterprises or movements to public funds; collaboration between governmental and cooperative movement research on matters relevant to public policy, publication and wide diffusion of research results, including those produced by the international cooperative movement, intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations. Emphasis should be on applied research of immediate utility in improving the efficiency of cooperatives, extending benefits to society and improving partnerships between the cooperative movement and Governments.

18. Statistics: Several measures may be undertaken to improve statistics for and about cooperatives: extend technical support provided by the national statistical service to the cooperative movement to an extent at least equal to that provided to other major stakeholders; assist in preparation of the annual report of the register of cooperatives; undertake preliminary studies on which to base integration of statistics on cooperatives in regular programmes of the national statistical service and participate in international efforts to improve cooperative statistics, including the establishment of a uniform set of definitions for use by national statistical services.

19. Information: Given that Governments regulate and broadly influence information diffusion, a number of measures may be useful in expanding knowledge of the cooperative movement and overcoming prejudices and misconceptions: extension of technical and

financial assistance to an extent equal to that made available to other stakeholders; ensuring that no discrimination exists because of the distinctive nature of cooperatives; equal and non-discriminatory access by the cooperative movement to all public media commensurate with its contribution to national life; use of affirmative action to overcome prejudice and misinformation where the term cooperative is associated with a previous and inappropriate usage; diffusion through public media of material on intergovernmental activities undertaken in partnership with or in support of cooperatives; dissemination of printed and computer-based information prepared by governmental or intergovernmental bodies with the same priority and resources as allocated to information on other stakeholders.

D. Education

20. Given the important contributions of the cooperative movement to education, a number of supportive and enabling measures might be useful: acknowledgment of the contributions made; commitment to non-interference in the movement's own programmes other than those generally applied in order to maintain standards in all educational institutions; avoidance of discrimination in certification and accreditation; support for all forms of collaboration and partnership between cooperative and public systems and assurance of equality with other types of private education (where this exists) in respect to eligibility for public funds; consideration of the option constituted by cooperative organization in programmes of privatization; encouragement of self-reliance among students by facilitating the formation of cooperatives to supply them with goods and services, including accommodation; encouragement of formation by public educational institutions of purchasing, supply and common service cooperatives; assurance of equal access by cooperatives with other suppliers, inclusion within the national curricula at all levels of the study of the values principles, history, current and potential contribution of the cooperative movement to national society; and encouragement and support of specialized studies in cooperatives at the tertiary level.

E. Provision of public funds

21. Financial self-reliance, total responsibility and full independence are vital for an effective cooperative enterprise. The best policy approach is one where cooperatives receive the same treatment as any other form of enterprise. A number of other measures are valuable: acknowledgement and protection of the special character of cooperatives and avoidance in law or practice of any discrimination arising from the special financial status, organization and management of cooperatives; avoidance of any direct or indirect engagement in the internal financial affairs of cooperatives or of the cooperative movement and recognition of the full responsibility of the movement for its own financial affairs; and the development of partnerships with cooperative financial institutions in such matters as community and regional development, drawing on their experience of mobilizing and managing capital in a manner and for purposes conducive to the public good.

F. Institutional arrangements for collaboration and partnership

22. Many governmental departments and bodies will have contact with the cooperative movement, while a policy of enabling and supporting cooperatives and operating an effective partnership with the movement will involve actions by a wide range of governmental institutions. In order to ensure consistency with broad general policy, certain coordinating functions within government, as well as liaison with the cooperative movement, will be useful.

23. It is advisable that a single department or office assume central coordinating, focal and liaison functions, of which the following might be most important: elaboration of a single national comprehensive policy in respect of cooperatives, formulation of guidelines for consistent execution throughout government, including monitoring and review of that execution; collaboration with legal departments in drafting the general and any special laws; and liaison, consultation and collaboration with the cooperative movement.

24. The most effective organizational location for the responsible entity would be within a department already charged with broad strategic and coordinating functions, such as the office of a prime minister or president, or that responsible for economic management of development planning.

25. An institutional arrangement appropriate to specific national conditions, which would permit effective collaboration between Governments and the cooperative, movement would be valuable.

26. Liaison between intergovernmental programmes and the international cooperative movement should be supported, including, in particular, that achieved through the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives.

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Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

Follow-up to the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 46/92 of 16 December 1991, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995 and 52/81 of 12 December 1997 concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family,

Recognizing that the basic objective of the follow-up to the International Year of the Family should be to strengthen and support families in performing their societal and developmental functions and to build upon their strengths, in particular at the national and local levels,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the world conferences of the 1990s continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Emphasizing that equality between women and men and respect for the rights of all family members is essential to family well-being and to society at large,

Noting with concern that, notwithstanding the achievements of the International Year of the Family since 1994, numerous problem areas exist that require concerted attention, such as the need to develop common ground and common understanding and to improve research, data collection and capacity-building and the training of personnel, in order to formulate, implement and evaluate family-related policies and programmes,

Also noting with concern that the contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities have steadily decreased, reducing its resource base, and that, unless this

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trend is reversed and the Fund strengthened, many priority concerns relating to family issues will not be met,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family,[1]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family,[1] and endorses the recommendations outlined in it;

2. *Invites* Governments to continue their actions to build family-friendly societies, *inter alia*, by promoting the rights of individual family members, and, in particular, gender equality and the rights of the child;

3. *Urges* Governments to continue to take sustained action at all levels concerning families and, in particular, to promote the role of families in development, and invites Governments to develop concrete measures and approaches to address national priorities to deal with family issues;

4. *Recommends* that all relevant actors, including Governments, research and academic institutions, and civil society, contribute to developing strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening the economic and sustainable livelihood of families;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to play an active role in facilitating regional and international cooperation within the framework of the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and information among Governments on effective policies and strategies;

6. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to undertake a comprehensive review of the global situation of families in 2004;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a fourth biennial progress report and to include therein draft guidelines to explore the appropriate ways and means to observe the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004 and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council.

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[1] A/54/256.

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Advancement of women

Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/117 of 9 December 1998 and its other relevant resolutions and decisions, as well as those of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Recalling the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, also reaffirming the obligations contained in later human rights instruments, in particular articles 5 and 12 of

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the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[1] article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[3]

Reaffirming also article 2, paragraph a, of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[4] and article 5, paragraph 5, of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[5]

Recalling the provisions of the outcome of the Second World Conference on Human Rights,[6] the International Conference on Population and Development,[7] the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[8] and the Fourth World Conference on Women[9] pertaining to traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls,

Recalling also general recommendation 14 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women concerning female circumcision,[10] as well as paragraphs 11, 20 and 24 (l) of general recommendation 19 concerning violence against women[11] and paragraphs 15 (d) and 18 of general recommendation 24 concerning women and health,[12]

Welcoming the fact that the Organization of African Unity First Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa, in the Grand Bay (Mauritius) Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted in April 1999, urged all African States to work assiduously towards the elimination of discrimination against women and the abolition of cultural practices which dehumanize or demean women and children,

Welcoming the Ouagadougou Declaration adopted in May 1999 at a regional workshop on the fight against female genital mutilation in the member countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union,[13]

Reaffirming that such traditional or customary practices constitute a definite form of violence against women and girls and a serious form of violation of their human rights,

Expressing concern at the continuing large-scale existence of these practices,

Stressing that the elimination of such practices requires greater efforts and commitment from Governments, the international community and civil society, including non-governmental and community organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitudes are required,

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[1] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[2] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[3] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[4] Resolution 48/104, annex.

[5] Resolution 36/55, annex.

[6] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] See A/CONF.169/16/Rev.1.

[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/45/38), chap. IV.

[11] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

[12] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/54/38/Rev.1), chap. I.A.

[13] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/14, annex.

1. *Welcomes*:

(a) The report of the Secretary-General, which provides encouraging examples of national and international developments;[14]

(b) The fact that the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights addressed the issue of harmful traditional or customary practices at their sessions in 1999;

(c) The fact that the General Assembly, at its special session for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, has addressed the issue of harmful practices;

(d) The efforts undertaken by United Nations bodies, programmes and organizations, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to address the issue of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, and encourages them to continue to coordinate their efforts;

(e) The work carried out by the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund including her visits to a number of countries and the fact that she has been invited to other countries;

(f) The work carried out by the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Girls and other non-governmental and community organizations, including women's organizations, in raising awareness of the harmful effects of such practices, in particular of female genital mutilation;

(g) The fact that the progress made toward the elimination of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls will be considered during the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

2. *Emphasizes* the need for technical and financial assistance for developing countries working to achieve the elimination of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls from United Nations funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions, and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as the need for assistance to non-governmental organizations and community-based groups active in this field from the international community;

3. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To ratify or accede to, if they have not yet done so, the relevant human rights treaties, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[1] and to respect and implement fully their obligations under any such treaties to which they are parties;

(b) To implement their international commitments in this field, *inter alia*, under the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[9] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[7] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights;[15]

[14] A/54/341.

[15] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

(c) To collect and disseminate basic data about the occurrence of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation;

(d) To adopt and implement national legislation and policies which prohibit traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

(e) To establish or strengthen support services to respond to the needs of victims through, *inter alia*, developing comprehensive and accessible sexual and reproductive health services and providing training to health-care providers at all levels on the harmful health consequences of such practices;

(f) To establish, if they have not done so, a concrete national mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of relevant legislation, law enforcement and national policies;

(g) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of and to mobilize international and national public opinion concerning the harmful effects of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, in particular through education, the dissemination of information, training, the media, the arts and local community meetings, in order to achieve the total elimination of these practices;

(h) To promote the inclusion of discussion of the empowerment of women and their human rights in primary and secondary education curricula, and to address specifically traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls in such curricula and in the training of health personnel;

(i) To promote men's understanding of their roles and responsibilities with regard to promoting the elimination of harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation;

(j) To involve, among others, public opinion leaders, educators, religious leaders, chiefs, traditional leaders, medical practitioners, women's health and family planning organizations, the arts and the media in publicity campaigns with a view to promoting a collective and individual awareness of the human rights of women and girls and of how harmful traditional or customary practices violate those rights;

(k) To continue to take specific measures to increase the capacity of communities, including immigrant and refugee communities, in which female genital mutilation is practised, to engage in activities aimed at preventing and eliminating such practices;

(l) To explore, through consultations with communities and religious and cultural groups and their leaders, alternatives to harmful traditional or customary practices, in particular where those practices form part of a ritual ceremony or rite of passage;

(m) To cooperate closely with the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child and to respond to her inquiries;

(n) To cooperate closely with relevant specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as with relevant non-governmental and community organizations, in a joint effort to eradicate traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(o) To include in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other relevant treaty bodies specific information on measures taken to eliminate traditional or customary practices

affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

4. *Invites*:

(a) Relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to exchange information on the subject of the present resolution, and encourages the exchange of such information between non-governmental organizations active in this field and the bodies monitoring the implementation of relevant human rights treaties;

(b) The Commission on Human Rights to address this subject at its fifty-sixth session, thus allowing a more comprehensive understanding of the impact of these practices on the human rights of women;

(c) Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund that supports the work of the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund;[16]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To make his report available to relevant meetings within the United Nations system;

(b) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, with a special focus on recent national and international developments, including examples of national best practices and international cooperation.

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[16] Project on female genital mutilation elimination (INT/98/PEF):
UNFPA Contributions Account
The Chase Manhattan Bank, 270 Park Avenue, 43rd floor, New York, NY 10017
Account Number: 015-004570, ABA# 021000021

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 109
Advancement of women

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993,[1]

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,[1] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[3] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[4]

Recalling also the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Belém, Brazil, in 1994,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[4] Resolution 39/46, annex.

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Concerned that violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, as recognized in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[5] which recommended a set of measures to combat violence against women, and to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Also concerned that some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in institutions or in detention, the girl child, women with disabilities, elderly women and women in situations of armed conflict, are especially vulnerable to violence,

Recognizing that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of their full advancement, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into subordinate positions, compared with men,

Recognizing also the urgent need for the universal application to women of the rights and principles with regard to equality, security, liberty, integrity and dignity of all human need,

Alarmed that women's opportunities to achieve legal, social, political and economic equality in society are limited, *inter alia*, by continuing and endemic violence,

Recognizing with satisfaction the cooperation provided by the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and organs of the United Nations system to different countries in the fight to eradicate violence against women, in the fulfilment of their respective mandates,

Recognizing also the efforts made by civil society and non-governmental organizations that have contributed to create worldwide social conscience of the negative impact, both on social and economic life, of violence against women,

Reiterating that, according to article 1 of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the term "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life,

Decides to designate 25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

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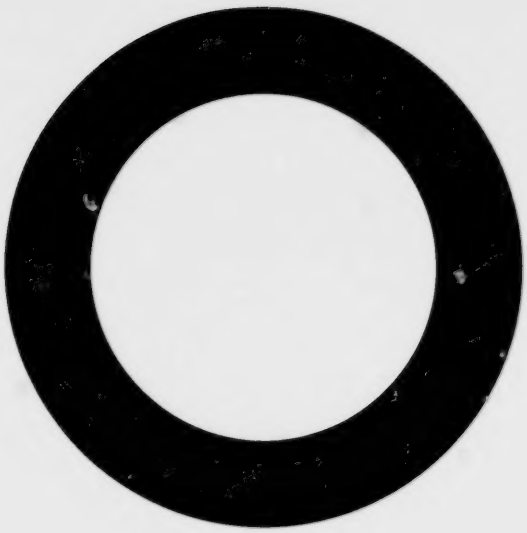
[5] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.



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Advancement of women

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kuwait, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela: revised draft resolution

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993, and its resolution 52/86 of 12 December 1997, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women",

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,[1] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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of Discrimination against Women[3] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[4]

Noting the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Belém, Brazil, in 1994, and general recommendation 19 adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women at its eleventh session,[5]

Concerned that violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, as recognized in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[6] and the Beijing Platform for Action[7] which recommended a set of integral measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women, and to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Also concerned that some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in institutions or in detention, the girl child, women with disabilities, elderly women and women in situations of armed conflict, are especially vulnerable to violence,

Recognizing that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of their full advancement, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into subordinate positions, compared with men,

Recognizing that the human rights of women and of the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,[8] and the need to promote and protect all human rights of women and girls,[9]

Alarmed that women do not fully enjoy their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and concerned about the long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms in relation to violence against women,[10]

Recognizing with satisfaction the cooperation provided by the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and organs of the United Nations system to different countries in the fight to eradicate violence against women, in the fulfilment of their respective mandates,

Recognizing also the efforts made by civil society and non-governmental organizations that have contributed to create worldwide social conscience of the negative impact, both on social and economic life, of violence against women,

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[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[4] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

[6] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[7] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[8] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 69.

[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I, para. 31.

[10] See Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/42.

Reiterating that, according to article 1 of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the term "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life,

1. *Decides* to designate 25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women;

2. *Invites*, as appropriate, Governments, the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, to organize on that day activities designated to raise public awareness on the problem of violence against women.

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Advancement of women

Bangladesh, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Panama, San Marino, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/93 of 12 December 1997,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[1] the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action[3] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4]

Noting that some effects of the evolving globalization process may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of rural women,

Noting also that the globalization process has had some benefits by providing opportunities for wage employment for rural women in new sectors,

Mindful of the fact that the available data and existing tools of measurement and analysis are insufficient for a full understanding of the gender implications of the processes of globalization and rural change, and their impact on rural women,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

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[1] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect A.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas;[5]

2. *Invites* Member States, in collaboration with United Nations organizations and civil society, to continue their efforts to implement the outcome of and to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, including their plus-five reviews, and to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national and global development strategies by, *inter alia*:

(a) Investing and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women through the provision of a safe and reliable water supply, health, including family planning services, and nutritional programmes as well as education and literacy programmes and social support measures;

(b) Ensuring the full and equal access of rural women to productive resources and services;

(c) Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development policies and programmes;

(d) Providing microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas for generating self-employment among them and eradicating poverty;

(e) Pursuing the political and socio-economic empowerment of rural women by supporting their full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels, including in rural institutions;

(f) Placing a renewed focus on the issue of rural women within the context of the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

(g) Ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are visible and recorded in economic surveys and statistics at the national level;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant international organizations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and in consultation with Member States, to undertake a comparative study, including case studies, and expert meetings and workshops to determine, quantify and explain the impact of globalization and poverty on rural women, and to incorporate its findings and recommendations in his report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

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[5] A/54/123-E/1999/66.

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Advancement of women

Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America: draft resolution

United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, in which it decided to make the United Nations Development Fund for Women a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme, as well as its resolution 52/94 of 12 December 1997,

Recalling also the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[1] which recognizes the special role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in the promotion of the empowerment of women,

Taking note of the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, as stipulated in the annex to resolution 39/125,

Welcoming the contributions the Fund has made in supporting initiatives of Member States, non-governmental organizations and United Nations organizations to formulate and implement activities that promote gender equality and women's empowerment, concentrating on three thematic areas: strengthening women's economic capacity; engendering governance and leadership; and promoting women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[2]

2. *Emphasizes* the important work that the Fund undertakes within the framework of the Beijing Platform for Action[1] and in supporting the implementation of recommendations related to women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming from other United Nations world conferences, such as the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development;

3. *Takes note* of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Fund's strategy and business plan, 1997-1999, adopted in 1997;

4. *Encourages* the Fund to cooperate with other partners of the United Nations system, governments and non-governmental organizations in assessment activities at all levels that will feed into the five-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action, including efforts to improve capacity in collection and dissemination of sex disaggregated data and accountability mechanisms at the country level;

5. *Commends* the Fund for its leadership role in convening United Nations inter-agency campaigns to end violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and in Asia and the Pacific throughout 1998 and continuing in 1999 and beyond, and the United Nations inter-agency global videoconference "A World Free of Violence Against Women", which took place on 8 March 1999;

6. *Recognizes* the progress achieved by the Fund in increasing the size and impact of its Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women and the importance of incorporating a learning component to extract and share good practices in eliminating violence against women, and reiterates the call to Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sector to consider contributing or increasing contributions to the Trust Fund;[3]

7. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to assist Governments and non-governmental organizations in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] in order to advance gender equality at the national level;[5]

8. *Requests* the Fund to strengthen the activities that it is undertaking to raise awareness about and strengthen the capacities of women in situations of armed conflict and to contribute to promoting the integration of a gender perspective into all peace-building activities, including through supporting women's full and equal participation at all levels, in all forums;

9. *Also requests* the Fund to continue its efforts to mainstream a gender perspective in United Nations operational activities, in particular through its leadership of the Sub-group on Gender of the United Nations Development Group and its convening of United Nations inter-agency thematic groups on gender to support the resident coordinator system;

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[2] A/54/225.

[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 7*, (E/1998/27), draft resolution IV, I, B.

[4] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[5] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II, para. 231 (g).

10. *Commends* the Fund and its collaborating partners for developing innovative mechanisms to expand the gender expertise available to the United Nations resident coordinator system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Volunteers, and encourages other United Nations organizations to develop similar initiatives that make use of the Fund's expertise and experience in gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment;

11. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Fund's Consultative Committee, as contained in the note by the Secretary-General, to further clarify the autonomous nature of the Fund and deepen the synergy between the Fund and the United Nations Development Programme;

12. *Recognizes* that the Fund has been able to secure increased contributions for its work, and expresses its appreciation to Member States and private organizations, including the United Nations Foundation, whose increased contributions demonstrate their commitment to the issues on which the Fund is working;

13. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to contribute to and consider increasing their financial contributions to the Fund.

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Advancement of women

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela: draft resolution

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/118 of 9 December 1998,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equallyl in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[1] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

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Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

Noting that 1999 is the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[2] welcoming the progress made in its implementation, but concerned with the remaining challenges,

Recalling its resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999 in which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports include information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,

Welcoming the growing number of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which now stands at one hundred and sixty-five,

Taking note of the elaboration and adoption by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, at its twentieth session, of general recommendation 24 on article 12 of the Convention, women and health,[3]

Having considered the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its twentieth and twenty-first sessions,[3]

Expressing concern at the great number of reports overdue and which continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitute an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[4]

2. *Urges* all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible, so that universal ratification of the Convention can be achieved by the year 2000;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Assembly of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

5. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States to limit the extent of any reservations they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

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[2] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/54/38/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[4] A/54/224.

6. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to make all possible efforts to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

7. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

8. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

9. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the additional meeting time allowing the Committee to hold two sessions annually, each of three weeks' duration, preceded by a pre-session working group of the Committee;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure adequate financing and staff support for the effective functioning of the Committee, including for the dissemination of information;

12. *Invites* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and its Optional Protocol;

13. *Encourages* all entities of the United Nations system to pay systematic, increased and sustained attention to the recommendations of the Committee in order to ensure that its concluding observations and general recommendations are better utilized in their respective work;

14. *Encourages* all parts of the United Nations system to continue building women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular of the Convention and its Optional Protocol;

15. *Encourages* the submission of reports by specialized agencies at the invitation of the Committee on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities, and welcomes the contribu[illegible] of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the status of the Convention and the implementation of the present resolution under the appropriate agenda item.

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General Assembly

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Agenda item 109
Advancement of women

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela: revised draft resolution

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/118 of 9 December 1998,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[1] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

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Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide, and, in this context, calling for the implementation of agreed conclusions 1998/2 of the Economic and Social Council,[2]

Noting that 1999 is the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[3] welcoming the progress made in its implementation, but concerned with the remaining challenges,

Recalling its resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999 in which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports include information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,

Welcoming the growing number of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which now stands at one hundred and sixty-five,

Taking note of the elaboration and adoption by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, at its twentieth session, of general recommendation 24 on article 12 of the Convention, women and health,[4]

Having considered the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its twentieth and twenty-first sessions,[4]

Expressing concern at the great number of reports overdue and which continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitute an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[5]

2. *Urges* all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible, so that universal ratification of the Convention can be achieved by the year 2000;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption by the General Assembly, by resolution 54/4, of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

5. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States to limit the extent of any reservations they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with

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[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (A/53/3 and Corr.1), chap. VI, para. 3.

[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/54/38/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[5] A/54/224.

the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

6. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to make all possible efforts to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

7. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

8. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

9. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the additional meeting time allowing the Committee to hold two sessions annually, each of three weeks' duration, preceded by a pre-session working group of the Committee;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure adequate financing and staff support for the effective functioning of the Committee, including for the dissemination of information;

12. *Invites* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and its Optional Protocol;

13. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, to continue to assist, upon their request, States parties to implement the Convention and, in this regard, to pay attention to the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

14. *Also encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue building women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular of the Convention and its Optional Protocol;

15. *Welcomes* the submission of reports by the specialized agencies at the invitation of the Committee on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities and the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee, and encourages those agencies to continue the submission of their reports;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the status of the Convention and the implementation of the present resolution under the appropriate agenda item.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
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Advancement of women

Bangladesh and the Philippines: draft resolution

Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[1]

Reaffirming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights[2] and its five-year review, the International Conference on Population and Development[3] and its five-year review, and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[4] specifically as the results pertain to migrant women, particularly women migrant workers,

Emphasizing the need for objective, comprehensive, broad-based information and a wide exchange of experiences and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

Welcoming the recommendations of the Working Group of Intergovernmental Experts on the Human Rights of Migrants of the Commission on Human Rights,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty,

[1] Resolution 48/104, annex.

[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

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unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of States to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Realizing that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers is often facilitated and made possible through fraudulent documentation and arranged marriages, and that by the nature of their status and movement, women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, from the country of origin to the country of destination,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination from the employment of women migrant workers,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing within their areas and recognizing the role of civil society in this regard,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers, and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers;[5]

2. *Also welcomes* the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants;

3. *Urges* Member States, particularly the countries of origin and destination, to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries and to cooperate fully with him, including by furnishing all information requested and reacting promptly to his urgent appeals;

4. *Urges* concerned Governments, particularly the countries of origin and destination, to further strengthen their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States;

5. *Encourages* Member States to adopt measures and provide services for women migrant workers so that they will be provided with information on their rights and the benefits they are entitled to, as well as legal services and alternatives to address their situation of vulnerability, both in the country of origin and country of destination;

6. *Further urges* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for relevant target groups, education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grass-roots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

7. *Calls upon* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, in cooperation with concerned international agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, to formulate and implement training and

[5] A/54/342.

developmental programmes for their law enforcers, prosecutors and service providers with a view to instilling among these public sector workers the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper and professional interventions for women migrant workers who are victims of abuse and violence;

8. *Also calls upon* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, if they have not done so, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers, and to the extent possible to provide victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as counselling, legal and consular assistance, temporary shelters and other measures, that will allow them to be present during the judicial process, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers to their country of origin;

9. *Further calls upon* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, to adopt measures or strengthen existing ones to regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, including considering the adoption of appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

10. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure that their immigration and labour laws and policies do not force women migrant workers to work in the informal sector of countries of destination under exploitative and abusive conditions;

11. *Encourages* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the United Nations Statistics Division and other relevant bodies, such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection methodologies that will generate comparable data on violence against women migrant workers as bases for research and analyses on the subject;

12. *Urges* Member States to consider ratifying and complying with International Labour Organization conventions, and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[6] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[7]

13. *Requests* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to elaborate a general recommendation on the situation of women migrant workers;

14. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur on human rights of migrants to review existing research on the problem of violence against women migrant workers, including those who migrate through betrothal, marriage or "mail order" arrangements, with a view to integrating and correlating data to establish patterns and trends, and to recommend concrete strategies to address the problem;

15. *Encourages* the participation of the civil society in developing and implementing appropriate measures to support innovative partnerships among public agencies, non-governmental organizations and other members of the civil society for combating violence against women migrant workers;

16. *Urges* concerned Governments to establish and maintain continuing dialogues to facilitate information exchanges;

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[6] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[7] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 212, No. 2861.

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations, as well as on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Advancement of women

Argentina, Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Portugal and Zambia: revised draft resolution

Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[1]

Reaffirming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights[2] and its five-year review, the International Conference on Population and Development[3] and its five-year review, and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[4] specifically as the results pertain to women migrant workers,

Emphasizing the need for objective, comprehensive, broad-based information and a wide exchange of experiences and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

Encouraging the participation of the civil society in developing and implementing appropriate measures to support innovative partnerships among public agencies, non-governmental organizations and other members of the civil society for combating violence against women migrant workers,

[1] Resolution 48/104, annex.

[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

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Taking note with appreciation of the recommendations of the Working Group of Intergovernmental Experts on the Human Rights of Migrants of the Commission on Human Rights,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of the country of origin to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Realizing that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers may be facilitated and made possible through fraudulent or irregular documentation and arranged marriages, and that, by the nature of their status and movement, women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination from the employment of women migrant workers,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing within their areas of jurisdiction,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers;[5]

2. *Also welcomes* the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants;

3. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to the urgent appeals of the Special Rapporteur;

4. *Encourages* Governments, particularly countries of origin and destination, to share information on violence against women migrant workers with the Special Rapporteur with a view to requesting the Special Rapporteur to recommend concrete measures and actions to address the problem;

5. *Also encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable him or her to fulfil the mandate effectively;

6. *Urges* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, to further strengthen their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States, and to establish and maintain continuing dialogues to facilitate the exchange of information;

[5] A/54/342

7. *Also urges* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for relevant target groups, education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grassroots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

8. *Encourages* Member States to adopt appropriate measures to inform women migrant workers of their rights and the benefits to which they are entitled;

9. *Calls upon* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, if they have not done so, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers and, to the extent possible, to provide, and to encourage non-governmental organizations to provide, victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as counselling, legal and consular assistance, temporary shelter and other measures, that will allow them to be present during the judicial process, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers to their country of origin;

10. *Encourages* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and, if they have not done so, to formulate and implement training programmes for their law enforcers, prosecutors and service providers with the view to instilling among those public sector workers the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper and professional interventions for women migrant workers who are subjected to abuse and violence;

11. *Also encourages* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin and destination, to adopt measures or strengthen existing ones to regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, including considering the adoption of appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

12. *Invites* Governments to identify the causes of undocumented migration and its economic, social and demographic impact, as well as its implications for the formulation and application of social, economic and migration policies, including those relating to women migrant workers;

13. *Encourages* concerned Governments, particularly those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the United Nations Statistics Division and other relevant bodies, such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection methodologies that will generate comparable data on violence against women migrant workers as bases for research and analyses on the subject;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider ratifying and complying with International Labour Organization conventions, and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[6] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[7]

15. *Encourages* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to consider developing a general recommendation on the situation of women migrant workers;

[6] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 212, No. 2861.

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers and on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the International Organization for Migration and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations.

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Advancement of women

Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, the United States of America and Zambia: draft resolution

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling also the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[1] of the achievement of overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by the year 2000,

Recalling further its resolutions 53/119 of 9 December 1998 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat and 53/221 of 7 April 1999 on human resources management,

Welcoming the progress made in improving the representation of women at the D-1 level but concerned that the representation of women at the senior and policy-making levels remains significantly below the goal of 50/50 gender distribution at these levels,

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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Welcoming further that the percentage of women appointed at the D-2 level and promoted to the D-1 level exceeded the goal of 50 per cent,

Concerned that the appointment of women at all other levels, with the exception of the P-2 level, falls significantly below the goal of 50 per cent, and concerned at the incremental pace at which the overall representation of women in the Secretariat has increased,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General and the framework for action contained therein;[2]

2. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. Regrets that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution will not be met by the year 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal by the end of 2000;

4. *Requests* the General Assembly, at its special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" to be held in June 2000, to consider further forward-looking strategies for achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Welcomes* the ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization, including full implementation of the special measures for the achievement of gender equality;[3]

6. *Further welcomes* the continued provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, and commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff;

7. *Strongly encourages* heads of departments and offices who have not yet organized such training to do so by the end of the next biennium;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to implement fully and to monitor the strategic plan of action for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (1995-2000)[4] in order to make notable progress toward the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the end of the year 2000, especially at the D-1 level and above;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that individual managers are held accountable for implementing the strategic plan within their areas of responsibility;

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[2] A/54/405.

[3] ST/AI/1999/9.

[4] A/49/587, sect. IV.

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys and to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventative diplomacy and economic and social development, and in operational activities, including as resident coordinators, as well as to appoint more women to other high-level positions;

11. *Welcomes* the inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resource management for individual departments and offices, and encourages cooperation between the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management in the further elaboration and monitoring of these plans, which will include concrete strategies and specific targets for improving women's representation in each department and office;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance, and to ensure that the appointment and promotion of suitably qualified women will not be less than 50 per cent until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met, including through full implementation of the special measures for women and the development of mechanisms to effectively encourage, monitor and assess the performance of programme managers in meeting targets for improving women's representation;

13. *Takes note* of the revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat issued by the Secretary-General in June 1999,[5] in particular its role in monitoring the implementation of the special measures for the achievement of gender balance;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to develop innovative recruitment strategies to identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in other Member States which are unrepresented or under-represented in the Secretariat, and in occupations in which women are under-represented;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his work to create within existing resources a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, including through the development of policies for flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements, child-care and elder-care needs, as well as through the provision of more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on spouse employment opportunities and the expansion of gender-sensitivity training in all departments and offices;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to develop further the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, and to issue clear, detailed guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to monitor effectively and facilitate progress in the implementation of the strategic plan and the special measures for women, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

18. *Strongly encourages* Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to intergovernmental, judicial and expert bodies; identifying and proposing

[5] ST/SGB/1999/9.

national recruitment sources which will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, particularly from developing countries and countries with economies in transition; and encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including in areas in which women are under-represented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

19. *Also strongly encourages* Member States to identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions, and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fourth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system and on the implementation of departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance.

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International drug control

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela: draft resolution

International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/92 of 12 December 1997 and 53/115 of 9 December 1998,

Reaffirming its commitment to the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in 1998, and welcoming the continued determination of Governments to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs, as reflected in the Political Declaration,[1] the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand

[1] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

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Reduction,[2] and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,

Gravely concerned that, despite continued increased efforts by States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, there is a global expansion of the drug problem, which constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all mankind, in particular young people, in all countries, undermines development, including efforts to reduce poverty, socio-economic and political stability and democratic institutions, entails an increasing economic cost for Governments, also threatens the national security and sovereignty of States, as well as the dignity and hope of millions of people and their families, and causes irreparable loss of human lives,

Concerned that demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs and psychotropic substances continue to seriously threaten the socio-economic and political systems, stability, national security and sovereignty of an increasing number of States, especially those involved in conflicts and wars, and that trafficking in drugs could make conflict resolution more difficult,

Deeply alarmed by the growing and spreading violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups engaged in drug-trafficking activities and other criminal activities, such as money-laundering and illicit traffic in arms, precursors and essential chemicals, and by the increasing transnational links between them, and recognizing the need for international cooperation and implementation of effective strategies on the basis of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, which are essential to achieving results against all forms of transnational criminal activities,

Deeply convinced that the special session made a significant contribution to a new comprehensive framework for international cooperation, based on an integrated and balanced approach with strategies, measures, methods, practical activities, goals and specific targets to be met, that all States, the United Nations system and other international organizations must implement them with concrete actions and that the international financial institutions, such as the World Bank, and the regional development banks should be invited to include action against the world drug problem in their programmes, taking into account the priorities of States,

Convinced that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can make an effective contribution to and should play an active role in addressing the world drug problem,

Emphasizing the importance of the adoption of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which introduces a global approach, recognizing a new balance between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, aims at preventing the use of drugs and at reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse, ensuring that special attention is paid to vulnerable groups, particularly youth, and constitutes one of the pillars of the new global strategy and an important initiative of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991-2000, and reaffirming the need for demand reduction programmes,

Emphasizing equally the importance of supply reduction as an integral part of a balanced drug control strategy under the principles enshrined in the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[3] and reaffirming the need for alternative development programmes that are

[2] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[3] Resolution S-20/4 E.

sustainable, welcoming the achievements of some States on their way to eradicating illicit drug crops, and inviting all other States to make similar efforts,

Underlining the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues, the leadership role and commendable work of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for concerted multilateral action and the important role of the International Narcotics Control Board as an independent monitoring authority, as set out in the international drug control treaties,

Recognizing the efforts of all countries, in particular those that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and of the International Narcotics Control Board in preventing the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and in maintaining production at a level consistent with licit demand, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[4] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[5]

Acknowledging that there are links, under certain circumstances, between poverty and the increase in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and that the promotion of the economic development of countries affected by the illicit drug trade requires appropriate measures, including strengthened international cooperation in support of alternative and sustainable development activities in the affected areas of those countries, which have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production,

Stressing that respect for all human rights is and must be an essential component of measures taken to address the drug problem,

Ensuring that women and men benefit equally, and without any discrimination, from strategies directed against the world drug problem, through their involvement in all stages of programmes and policy-making,

Recognizing that the use of the Internet poses new opportunities and challenges to international cooperation in combating drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking, and further recognizing the need for increased cooperation among States and the exchange of information, including with reference to national experiences, on how to counteract the promotion of drug abuse and the illicit drug trafficking through this instrument and on ways to use the Internet for information concerning drug demand reduction,

I

Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in the fight against the world drug problem

1. *Reaffirms* that the fight against the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility which must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requiring an integrated and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and particularly with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States to take further action to promote effective cooperation at the international and regional levels in the efforts to combat the world drug problem so as

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

to contribute to a climate conducive to achieving that end, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[6] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[5] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[7]

II
Action plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction

1. *Adopts* the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-third session on the follow-up to the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

3. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan in their respective national, regional and international actions and to strengthen their national efforts to fight the use of illicit drugs among their population, particularly among children and youth;

III
International cooperation to counter the world drug problem

1. *Urges* competent authorities, at the international, regional and national levels, to implement the outcome of the twentieth special session, within the agreed time-frames, in particular the high-priority practical measures at the international, regional or national level, as indicated in the Political Declaration,[1] the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[2] and its Action Plan and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem, including the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors,[8] the measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,[9] the measures to promote judicial cooperation,[10] the measures to counter money-laundering,[11] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;[3]

2. *Stresses* its resolve to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in order to be able to fulfil its mandate, and takes note of the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999;

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[6] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[7] See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

[8] Resolution S-20/4 A.

[9] See resolution S-20/4 B.

[10] Resolution S-20/4 C.

[11] Resolution S-20/4 D.

3. *Renews* its commitment to further strengthening international cooperation and substantially increasing efforts to counter the world drug problem, in accordance with the obligations of States under the United Nations drug control conventions, on the basis of the general framework given by the Global Programme of Action,[12] and the outcome of the special session, and taking into account experience gained;

4. *Calls upon* all States to adopt effective measures, including national laws and regulations, to implement the mandates and recommendations of the Global Programme of Action, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States in accordance with those international instruments, in order to implement the outcome and the goals of the special session, within the agreed time-frame of 2003 and 2008;

5. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other concerned intergovernmental and international organizations, within their mandates, and all actors of civil society, notably non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, sports associations, the media and the private sector, to continue their close cooperation with Governments in their efforts to promote and implement the Global Programme of Action, the outcome of the special session and of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, including through public information campaigns;

6. *Urges* Governments, the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations to assist and support, upon request, transit States, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, aiming at enhancing their capacity to fight illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account national plans and initiatives, and emphasizes the importance of subregional, regional and international cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking;

7. *Reaffirms* that preventing the diversion of chemicals from legitimate commerce to illicit drug manufacture is an essential component of a comprehensive strategy against drug abuse and trafficking, which requires the effective cooperation of exporting, importing and transit States, and takes note of the progress made in developing practical guidelines to prevent such diversion of chemicals, including those of the International Narcotics Control Board and the recommendations on implementing article 12 of the 1988 Convention, and calls upon all States to adopt and implement measures to prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacture, in cooperation with competent international and regional bodies and, if necessary and to the extent possible, with the private sector in each State, in accordance with the goals set up for 2003 and 2008 in the Political Declaration and the resolution on the control of precursors, adopted at the special session;[9]

8. *Calls upon* States in which cultivation and production of illicit drug crops occur to establish or reinforce, where appropriate, national mechanisms to monitor and verify illicit crops, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-third session, in March 2000, on the follow-up to the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with the support of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, to continue its work expeditiously, within the established time-frames, on the elaboration of guidelines to facilitate biennial reporting by Governments on the implementation of the Global Programme of Action and progress

[12] See resolution S-17/2, annex.

achieved in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration of the special session, and to encourage an efficient collection of reliable data, an increase in the number of Governments that report updated information on a regular basis and an improvement in the quality of their responses, as well as the avoidance of the duplication of activities;

10. *Calls upon* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to mainstream a gender perspective into all its policies, programmes and activities, and requests the Secretariat to integrate a gender perspective into all its documentation;

11. *Recalls* the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December,[13] notes with satisfaction the commitment of young people to a drug free society made at various fora, stresses the importance of youth continuing to contribute their experiences and to participate in the decision-making processes and, in particular, putting into effect the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and, in this context, also recalls the holding of the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, in Lisbon, from 8 to 12 August 1998,[14] and the Third World Youth Forum of the United Nations System, in Braga, Portugal, from 2 to 7 August 1998;[15]

12. *Calls upon* States to adopt effective measures, including possible national legislative measures, and to enhance cooperation to stem the illicit trade in small arms which, as a result of its close link to the illicit drug trade, is generating extremely high levels of crime and violence within the societies of some States, threatening the national security and economies of those States;

13. *Takes note* of the progress achieved in the elaboration of an international convention against transnational organized crime and the three related international instruments, within the framework of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and urges the Committee to intensify its work in order to complete it in the year 2000;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the objectives of the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991-2000, under the theme "A global response to a global challenge", by Member States, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations system;

IV
Action by the United Nations system

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities so as to increase cost-effectiveness and ensure coherence of action, as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities throughout the United Nations system;

2. *Emphasizes* that the multidimensional nature of the world drug problem calls for the promotion of integration and coordination of drug control activities throughout the United Nations system, including in the follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

[13] Resolution 50/81, annex.

[14] A/53/378, annex I.

[15] A/53/378, annex II.

3. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to attach high priority to the improvement of the coordination of United Nations activities related to the world drug problem so as to avoid duplication of such activities, strengthen efficiency and accomplish the goals approved by Governments;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies, programmes and funds, including humanitarian organizations, and invites multilateral financial institutions, to include action against the world drug problem in their programming and planning processes, in order to ensure that the integral and balanced strategy which emerged from the special session devoted to countering the world drug problem together is being addressed;

V
United Nations International Drug Control Programme

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,[16] the Global Programme of Action,[12] the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together and relevant consensus documents;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the support provided to different States on meeting the objectives of the Global Programme of Action and of the special session, especially on cases where significant and anticipated progress was achieved regarding the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008;

3. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue:

(a) To strengthen cooperation with Member States, and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as other relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the special session;

(b) To strengthen dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with the international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed on further progress made in this area;

(c) To take into account the outcome of the special session, to include in its report on illicit traffic in drugs an updated assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

(d) The publication of the *World Drug Report* with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all official languages;

4. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

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[16] See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

5. *Urges* the International Narcotics Control Board to increase efforts to implement all its mandates under international drug control conventions and to continue to cooperate with Governments, including by offering advice to Member States that request it;

6. *Notes* that the International Narcotics Control Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, including through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, in all regions of the world, and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and encourages them to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the special session;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[17] and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session, including on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and the present resolution.

Annex

Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction

Preamble

1. In the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[18] Member States:

(a) Recognized that demand reduction was an indispensable pillar in the global approach to countering the world drug problem and committed themselves:

(i) To introducing into their national programmes and strategies the provisions set out in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;[19]

(ii) To working closely with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to develop action-oriented strategies to assist in the implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

(iii) To establishing the year 2003 as a target date for new or enhanced drug demand reduction strategies and programmes set up in close collaboration with public health, social welfare and law enforcement authorities;

(iv) To achieving significant and measurable results in the field of demand reduction by 2008;

[17] A/54/186.

[18] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

[19] General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

(b) Called upon all States to report biennially to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on their efforts to meet the above-mentioned goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008.

2. The present Action Plan is offered as guidance to Member States in implementing the above-mentioned commitments. Organizations of the United Nations system,[20] other international organizations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations are invited to provide support to Member States in implementing the Action Plan, according to their available resources, specific mandates and the different roles that they are to play in achieving the goals set out in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction.

3. The Action Plan reflects the emphasis in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction on the need for a comprehensive and balanced approach involving demand reduction and supply reduction, each reinforcing the other, together with the appropriate application of the principle of shared responsibility. It stresses the need for services responsible for prevention, including law enforcement agencies, to transmit the same message and use similar language.

4. The Action Plan is guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[21] It allows for flexible approaches to reflect social, cultural, religious and political differences, and it acknowledges that efforts to reduce illicit drug demand are at different levels of implementation in different countries.

5. The Action Plan recognizes that progress to reduce the demand for illicit drugs should be seen in the context of the need for programmes to reduce the demand for substances of abuse. Such programmes should be integrated to promote cooperation between all concerned, should include a wide variety of appropriate interventions, should promote health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities, and should reduce the adverse consequences of drug abuse for the individual and for society as a whole.

6. The Action Plan focuses on the need to design demand reduction campaigns and programmes to meet the needs of the population in general, as well as those of specific population groups, taking into account differences in gender, culture and education and paying special attention to youth.[22] Demand reduction efforts should be developed with the participation of target groups, giving special attention to a gender perspective.

I. The commitment

7. *Objective 1.* To apply the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction in order to achieve significant and measurable results in reducing the demand for drugs by the year 2008 and to report on those results to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. That would entail the following:

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[20] This may include, but is not restricted to, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, as well as international financial institutions such as the World Bank.

[21] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[22] As expressed, for example, in "The vision from Banff", drawn up by the Youth Vision Jeunesse Drug Abuse Prevention Forum held in Banff, Canada, from 14 to 18 April 1998.

(a) *Impact*. A greater compliance with the spirit and principles of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and achieving significant and measurable results in reducing the demand for drugs;

(b) *Outputs*. Biennial reports by each country on the efforts to implement the Declaration and reduce the demand for drugs and on the results achieved;

(c) *National action*. Applying the Declaration and preparing a biennial report containing measurable results for submission to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme to collate national reports and report on its findings to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

8. *Objective 2*. To secure, at the highest political level possible, a long-term commitment to the implementation of a national strategy for reducing illicit drug demand and to establish a mechanism for ensuring full coordination and participation of the relevant authorities and sectors of society. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Higher priority for and long-term commitment to demand reduction and effective coordination between relevant sectors of society;

(b) *Outputs*. A mechanism for ensuring ongoing commitment to the strategy through: (i) fostering linkages and integration with other relevant plans and programmes, for instance, those concerning health, including public health issues such as those relating to the human immuno-deficiency virus (HIV), acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and hepatitis C, as well as education, housing, employment, social exclusion, law enforcement and crime prevention; (ii) encouraging the participation of all sectors of society; and (iii) providing for the assessment and reporting of results and refinement of the strategy as necessary;

(c) *National action*. Consultation and cooperation with potential partners in developing multisectoral plans and obtaining long-term commitments coordinated by the appropriate national authorities;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to provide appropriate assistance in establishing coordination mechanisms for those requesting it.

9. *Objective 3*. To develop and implement, by the year 2003, national strategies fully incorporating the guiding principles set out in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. An integrated, balanced, efficient and effective national strategy for addressing drug issues, with major emphasis on demand reduction;

(b) *Outputs*. A strategy document tailored to national needs, characteristics and cultures, specifying the role of agencies involved, the time-frame for activities and the goals;

(c) *National action*. This would include: (i) developing a national strategy by assessing the problem, defining the needs and resources, establishing priorities and goals, setting time-frames for specific activities and results and determining the roles of the agencies concerned; (ii) implementing the strategy through the development of a national action plan with a multisectoral approach, endorsed by an appropriate national body; and (iii) developing a framework for assessing and reporting results and reporting on the strategy and its implementation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to provide

guidance and assistance to those requesting it and to set up a database on national drug control strategies.

II. Assessing the problem

10. *Objective 4.* To assess the causes and consequences of the misuse of all substances in each country and to communicate those causes and consequences to policy makers, planners and the general public in order to develop practical measures; to establish a national system to monitor drug problems and trends and to record and evaluate intervention programmes and their impact on a regular basis, using national indicators; and, taking into account existing national and regional data systems for monitoring drug problems and trends, as well as the goals and targets established for the years 2003 and 2008 in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, to work towards establishing a core set of regionally and internationally recognized indicators. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact.* Programmes and policies that are based on precise and timely evidence on the causes and consequences of drug abuse;

(b) *Outputs.* They would include: (i) a regular national report on the current drug situation and trends; and (ii) a periodic assessment of the health, social and economic costs of drug abuse and the benefits associated with different measures and actions, on both the demand and the supply side;

(c) *National action.* This would include: (i) establishing a national system for data collection and analysis of drug abuse; (ii) undertaking periodic assessments of the costs to society of drug abuse, and of the medium- and long-term benefits to society if the problem is reduced; and (iii) using the information for drug policy and programme development;

(d) *International and regional action.* The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations: (i) to provide advice and technical assistance to countries requesting it on the establishment of national systems for monitoring the drug abuse problem, including regionally and internationally recognized core indicators; and (ii) to promote the development of methodologies for assessing the costs and consequences of drug abuse, and for undertaking cost benefit analyses of various measures and actions.

11. *Objective 5.* To develop research programmes at the national and regional levels in scientific fields concerning drug demand reduction and to widely disseminate the results so that strategies for reducing illicit drug demand may be elaborated on a solid scientific basis. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact.* Improved drug demand reduction strategies based on scientific evidence;

(b) *Outputs.* Programmes for research on issues related to drug demand reduction;

(c) *National action.* Identifying research needs, developing research programmes, mobilizing resources required and promoting the application of research findings;

(d) *International and regional action.* The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to encourage research into a wide range of drug demand reduction issues and the dissemination and application of research findings.

III. Tackling the problem

12. *Objective 6*. To identify and develop programmes for reducing illicit drug demand in a wide variety of health and social contexts and to encourage collaboration among those programmes, which should cover all areas of drug abuse prevention, ranging from discouraging the initial use of illicit drugs to reducing the negative health and social consequences of drug abuse, and should include continuing education, not only for all educational levels, beginning at an early age, but also in the workplace, the family and the community; and to develop programmes to make the public aware of the problem of drug abuse and of the full continuum of risks involved in such abuse and to provide information on and services for early intervention, counselling, treatment, rehabilitation, relapse prevention, aftercare and social reintegration to those in need. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Reduction of drug abuse and related health and social consequences;

(b) *Outputs*. Easily accessible drug demand reduction programmes, integrated into broader health and social programmes, covering where possible the full spectrum of services, including reducing the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse;

(c) *National action*. Developing and implementing specific demand reduction activities at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of prevention that meet the needs of various target groups and which are integrated into the health, education and other related sectors;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to provide guidance and assistance to those requesting it and to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

IV. Forging partnerships

13. *Objective 7*. To identify how different national and local institutions and organizations may contribute to efforts to reduce illicit drug demand, and to promote the linking of those institutions and organizations. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. More efficient utilization of resources and local ownership of programmes;

(b) *Outputs*. Identification of the roles of national and local institutions and organizations and of networking arrangements between them with a view to improving their contribution to, and the effectiveness of, national strategies;

(c) *National action*. This would include: (i) identifying drug demand reduction programmes run by various agencies, governmental and non-governmental, and defining their role in the national strategy; and (ii) promoting and reinforcing collaboration and networking among them;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to compile a collection of examples of collaborative and cooperative arrangements that are in place in Member States to promote and reinforce networking, and to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

V. Focusing on special needs

14. *Objective 8.* To enhance the quality of programmes for reducing illicit drug demand, especially in terms of their relevance to population groups, taking into account their cultural diversity and specific needs, such as gender, age and socially, culturally and geographically marginalized groups. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact.* Improvement in the quality and relevance of services offered;

(b) *Outputs.* Guidelines for programmes and services, taking into consideration cultural diversity and specific needs;

(c) *National action.* This would include: (i) establishing guidelines for the development and implementation of programmes; and (ii) monitoring and evaluating programmes according to established guidelines in order to improve programme quality and increase cost effectiveness;

(d) *International and regional action.* The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to promote the development of guidelines and to facilitate the sharing of information among Member States.

15. *Objective 9.* To target the particular needs of groups most at risk of abusing drugs, through the development, in cooperation with those groups, of specially designed communication strategies and effective, relevant and accessible programmes. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact.* Reduction of drug abuse among groups at risk and a reduction in the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse;

(b) *Outputs.* Development of programmes and communication strategies for specific risk groups, particularly youth;

(c) *National action.* This would include: (i) identifying risk factors and groups at risk and developing programmes and communication strategies in cooperation with such groups to address their specific needs; and (ii) establishing and supporting mechanisms, including networks that facilitate the participation of young people in the design and implementation of programmes intended for them;

(d) *International and regional action.* The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations: (i) to promote the participation of target groups in the design of projects and facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies; and (ii) to facilitate the creation of an international network promoting regular contact among youth involved in demand reduction activities and allowing them to stay informed and learn from one another.

16. *Objective 10.* To provide prevention, education, treatment or rehabilitation services to offenders who misuse drugs, whether in prison or in the community, as an addition to or, where appropriate and consistent with the national laws and policies of Member States, as an alternative to punishment or conviction; and to provide, in particular, drug-abusing offenders held in prison with services to enable them to overcome their dependence and to facilitate their reintegration in the community. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact.* A reduction of drug abuse among offenders and, where appropriate, positive social integration or reintegration;

(b) *Outputs.* Comprehensive drug prevention, education, treatment, rehabilitation and social integration programmes for offenders;

(c) *National action*. Cooperation among institutions and organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, offering health, social, justice, correctional, vocational training and employment services, in order to provide preventive care, education, treatment and rehabilitation for offenders and, where appropriate, programmes to enable their integration into the community;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations, to facilitate sharing of information on best strategies.

VI. Sending the right message

17. *Objective 11*. To undertake public information campaigns aimed at the population in general to promote health, raise awareness in society and improve people's understanding of the drug problem in the community and of the need to curb that problem; to evaluate those campaigns by establishing a follow-up system to determine their impact; and to carry out research into the requirements of particular population groups, such as parents, teachers, community leaders and drug users, with regard to information on drugs and services. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Enhanced knowledge and awareness of the drug problem, of the need to take action, and of the available support mechanisms;

(b) *Outputs*. Appropriately targeted public information campaigns based on knowledge acquired from research to promote greater awareness of the drug problem and to provide information on available resources and services;

(c) *National action*. Assessing needs and including and evaluating public information activities as part of national drug strategies;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

18. *Objective 12*. To develop information campaigns that are relevant and precise so that they take into account the social and cultural characteristics of the target population: That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Increased knowledge and awareness among drug users and specific social and cultural groups about drugs and the adverse health and social consequences of drug use, as well as the availability of services;

(b) *Outputs*. Effective and culturally appropriate information campaigns that encourage and help drug users to reduce their involvement with drugs and prevent or reduce adverse health and social problems and inform them about available services;

(c) *National action*. Providing information on drugs and drug abuse and on how to obtain help for those most in need, particularly drug users. Information should be based on knowledge acquired from research and developed in collaboration with the target audience;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies.

19. *Objective 13*. To promote information, education and communication programmes for social mediators, for example, political, religious, educational, cultural, business and union leaders, peer educators, and representatives of non-governmental organizations and

the media worldwide, so that they may convey appropriate and accurate messages about drug abuse. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Enhanced knowledge and skills among social mediators in conveying information about drug abuse;

(b) *Outputs*. Programmes and other activities to inform and educate social mediators and to develop their communication skills;

(c) *National action*. Developing training strategies for social mediators;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the sharing of information on best strategies in this field.

VII. Building on experience

20. *Objective 14*. To train planners and practitioners of governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and others within the community on a permanent basis in all aspects of demand reduction activities and strategic programming by identifying local, national, subregional and regional human resources and using their experience in the design of programmes in order to guarantee their continuity and to create and strengthen regional, subregional, national and local training and technical resource networks; and, with the possible assistance of regional and international organizations, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and expertise by encouraging States to include demand reduction personnel from other States in training programmes that they have developed. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Improved knowledge and skills of practitioners in demand reduction, facilitating the development of more efficient, effective and sustainable services;

(b) *Outputs*. Strategies for the development and expansion of the pool of technical expertise supporting planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluation of national demand reduction programmes;

(c) *National action*. This would include: (i) identifying those involved in planning and implementing programmes, from planners to practitioners and institutions and individuals involved with service delivery, in order to enhance their capacity to respond to the problem; (ii) supporting the design and implementation of training programmes, reviewed and updated on a regular basis, to form part of a continuing education programme for trainers; and (iii) designing and instituting training programmes for the various sectors involved in demand reduction programmes;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations: (i) to facilitate sharing of information on best strategies, (ii) to facilitate the development of guidelines on the development of curricula and training programmes, including distance learning, and assistance for those requesting it; and (iii) to facilitate the intercountry exchange of experts for training purposes and the participation of foreign personnel in national training programmes developed by Member States.

21. *Objective 15*. To evaluate strategies and activities for reducing illicit drug demand and to develop mechanisms for intercountry, regional and interregional advocacy coordination, cooperation and collaboration in order to identify, share and expand best practices and effective activities in the development and implementation of drug demand reduction programmes. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Demand reduction programmes that are soundly based on validated experience and evidence;

(b) *Outputs*. They would include: (i) domestic evaluation results of strategies and activities and mechanisms for cooperation and data sharing; and (ii) mechanisms for facilitating the exchange of evaluation results and other data assessing the effectiveness of strategies and activities at the domestic, regional and interregional levels;

(c) *National action*. This would include: (i) monitoring and evaluating demand reduction strategies and activities and utilizing the results to inform and improve national plans; and (ii) participating in coordinating mechanisms for intercountry, regional and international exchange of information;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to facilitate the exchange of information by establishing coordination mechanisms.

22. *Objective 16*. To create an international system of information on illicit drug demand reduction by linking existing databases managed by international, regional and national organizations in order to provide a network of information on knowledge and experiences that, to the extent possible, would use the above-mentioned core set of regionally and internationally recognized indicators and to enable comparisons of national experiences to be made. That would entail the following:

(a) *Impact*. Improved access to information, experiences and practices to facilitate the better design of programmes and policies;

(b) *Outputs*. National, regional and international mechanisms allowing easy access to databases and networks for the exchange of knowledge and experience of demand reduction;

(c) *National action*. Establishing and maintaining databases and facilitating linkages for international networking;

(d) *International and regional action*. The United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other relevant international and regional organizations to participate in the creation of an international mechanism by facilitating networking and linkages between databases.